

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04
USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07
PA-01 PRS-01 FEA-01 /114 W
-----082039Z 116264 /70

R 081454Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4456
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, ENRG, LY, TS

SUBJ: LIBYAN-TUNISIAN SHELF DISPUTE: OIL FINDS IN AREA

1. ONE OF THE COMPLICATING FACTORS IN THE CURRENT LIBYAN-TUNISIAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE IS ABUNDANT EVIDENCE (AND JUDGMENT MOST INTERESTED OILMEN) THAT COMMERCIALY EXPLOITABLE QUANTITIES OF OIL EXIST IN THE DISPUTED AREA. US OILMEN IN TRIPOLI EXPECT THAT BATES D-2 WELL WILL FIND OIL IN VIEW PREVIOUS DISCOVERIES AND CONFIRMATORY WELLS IN THE AQUITAINE AND AGIP OFFSHORE CONCESSIONS.

2. IN AQUITAINE GROUP CONCESSION 137, TWO WELLS, COMPLETED IN 1971 AND IN 1976, WERE DISCOVERY AND CONFIRMATION HOLES. WHILE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT HAS MADE EXAGGERATED CLAIMS OF A "HUGE" FIELD IN THIS CONCESSION, LOCAL US OILMEN CLOSE TO AQUITAINE GROUP TELL US THAT THICKNESS OF COLUMN IN THESE
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TWO WELLS INDICATES A COMMERCIAL FIELD OF SEVERAL HUNDRED MILLION BARRELS. LOCAL INDUSTRY OFFICIALS SAY THAT AQUITAINE GROUP STILL INTENDS RESUME EXPLORATION NEXT MONTH.

3. US OILMAN IN NOC REPORTS THAT DRILLING IN AGIP CONCESSION NC-41 INDICATES A FIELD CURRENTLY ESTIMATED

BY NOC AT 500 MILLION BARRELS -- SUFFICIENT FOR
COMMERCIAL EXPLOITATION. BOTH THE B-1 1976 DISCOVERY
WELL AND B-2 CONFIRMATION WELL (NOW BEING TESTED BY
SCARABEO III RIG) HAVE HAD UNUSUALLY THICK OIL
COLUMNS.

4. STATUS OF ALL LIBYAN OFFSHORE EXPLORATION WELLS
FORWARDED IN TRIPOLI A-22.
CARLE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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